

FISCAL NOTE
HB 489 - SB 1526

March 6, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Designates general sessions courts as courts of record.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Exceeds \$6,000,000*

Assumptions:

- The provisions of the bill would require every general sessions court to have an official court reporter.
- The reporter would be required for criminal and civil cases.
- There are 147 general sessions courts requiring a full-time reporter.
- There are 26 municipal courts requiring a part-time reporter.
- The average salary and benefits package of a court reporter is \$39,000.
- Digital records of the proceedings could be used for storage rather than a paper copy.
- The total increase in local government expenditures is calculated as:

147 X \$39,000 = \$5,733,000 For general sessions court reporters

26 X \$39,000 = \$1,014,000

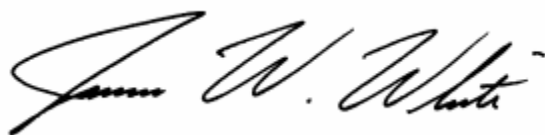
\$1,014,000/2 = \$507,000 For part-time municipal court reporters

\$5,733,000 + \$507,000 = \$6,240,000

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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